



## H.Res. 1283 – Expressing heartfelt sympathy for the victims and their families following the tornado that hit Little Sioux, Iowa, on June 11, 2008

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### FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 1283 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Lee Terry (R-NE) on June 18, 2008. The resolution was referred to the House Committee Oversight and Government Reform and was ordered to be reported by voice vote on June 20, 2008.

H.Res. 1283 is expected to be considered on the floor of the House on June 24, 2008.

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### SUMMARY

H.Res. 1283 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Expresses its heartfelt sympathy for the victims and their families of the tornado in Little Sioux, Iowa, on June 11, 2008; and
- Conveys its gratitude to the city and county officials, police, fire department, sheriff, volunteer, and emergency medical teams who responded swiftly to the scene to treat the wounded.

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### BACKGROUND

On June 11, 2008, a tornado touched down at the Little Sioux Boy Scout Ranch where a group of Boy Scouts were attending the Pohuk Pride Junior Leadership training course. The tornado killed 4 of the boys and injured 43 other people at the Ranch. The boys killed in the tornado were Sam Thomsen, Josh Fennen, Ben Petzilka, and Aaron Eilerts. The majority of those injured were rushed to local hospitals and later released.

Secretary of Homeland Security Michael Certoff visited Little Sioux Ranch on June 12, 2008, and Governors Chet Culver of Iowa and Dave Heineman of Nebraska met with the families of the victims and thanked first responders to the disaster. First responders to the disaster include the Little Sioux Volunteer Fire Department, the Iowa National Guard, and the Red Cross.

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### STAFF CONTACT

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